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Appl. No. 10/018,467
July 19, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-17 (Cancelled).

18. (Cancel).

19. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a bacterial infection comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of an antibiotic agent selected from the group consisting of 2'-carboxylic acid esters of Erythromycin B, wherein said 2' esters of Erythromycin B are with a dicarboxylic acid, and 2'-carboxylic acid esters of Erythromycin B enol ether.

20. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~18~~ 19 wherein the antibiotic agent is a 2'-ester of Erythromycin B enol ether with a monocarboxylic acid.

21. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~18~~ 19 wherein the antibiotic agent is 2'-ester of Erythromycin B enol ether with a dicarboxylic acid.

22. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~20~~ 21 wherein the ester is a succinate ester.

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23 and 24 (Cancel).

25. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~23~~ 19 wherein the 2' carboxylic acid ester of Erythromycin B ester is a succinate ester.

26. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~18~~ 19 wherein the antibiotic agent is administered in an amount of up to 500mg per day.

27. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~18~~ 19 wherein the antibiotic agent is administered in an amount of 250 to 500mg per day.

28. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~18~~ 19 wherein the antibiotic agent is administered in the form of a tablet, a capsule, an elixir, an injectable or a syrup.

29. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~18~~ 19 wherein the bacterial infection is TB, Syphilis, Helicobacter pylori or Chlamydia.

30. (Currently Amended) An antibiotic composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an antibiotic agent selected from the group

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consisting of 2'-carboxylic acid esters of Erythromycin B, wherein said 2'-carboxylic acid esters of Erythromycin B are with a dicarboxylic acid, and 2'-carboxylic acid esters of Erythromycin B enol ether.

31. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim ~~29~~ 30 wherein the antibiotic agent is a 2'-ester of Erythromycin B enol ether with a monocarboxylic acid.

32. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim ~~29~~ 30 wherein the antibiotic agent is 2'-ester of Erythromycin B enol ether with a dicarboxylic acid.

33. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim ~~31~~ 32 wherein the ester is a succinate ester.

34 and 35 (Cancel).

36. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim ~~29~~ 30 wherein the 2' carboxylic acid ester of Erythromycin B ester is a succinate ester.

37. (Previously Presented) A 2'-carboxylic acid ester of Erythromycin B enol ether.

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38. (Currently Amended) The ester as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 37 which is a 2'-ester of Erythromycin B enol ether with a monocarboxylic acid.

39. (Currently Amended) The ester as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 37 which is a 2'-ester of Erythromycin B enol ether with a dicarboxylic acid.

40. (Currently Amended) The ester as claimed in claim ~~38~~ 39 wherein the ester is a succinate ester.

41. (Previously Presented) A 2'-ester of Erythromycin B with a dicarboxylic acid.

42. (Currently Amended) The ester as claimed in claim ~~40~~ 41 which is a succinate ester.

43. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a bacterial infection comprising administering Erythromycin B to a patient in need of such treatment in an amount of up to 500 mg per day.

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44. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 42 43 wherein said amount is 250 to 500mg per day.

45. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 42 43 wherein the bacterial infection is TB, Syphilis, Helicobacter pylori or Chlamydia.

46. (Previously Presented) A method of treating an infection of Helicobacter pylori comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of Erythromycin B.